(ix) All new vehicles are checked for pollution levels at the time of registration and only vehicles conforming to prescribed standards are registered by the Transport Department.

(x) Prosecution drive against the polluting vehicles was launched in April. 1990. through mobile enforcement teams. These teams also conduct checking of vehicles of neighbouring States at entry point. So far, 3.04 lakh vehicles have been checked between April, 1990 and December, 1993 by these teams. During this period 32,808 Nos. of vehicles have been challaned. Besides, pollution control check certificate/certificate of fitness of 97,321 vehicles have been cancelled during the same period.

(xi) Intensive checking of pollution levels of DTC buses was undertaken in February, 1990 and March 1992 in DTC Depots and concerned authorities were advised to undertake corrective steps. Further, DTC buses had to obtain pollution control certificates after six months. Since dated 6-9-93 certification period has been reduced to three months for all types of buses including DTC buses. Besides, Transport Department conducted pollution checking of all DTC buses at their depots. 2889 Nos. of buses were checked of which 750 buses i.e. 26% were found polluting beyond the prescribed standards. DTC has been instructed that polluting buses should not out-shed.

(xii) Transport Department and its authorised centres have checked approx. 23.60 lakh vehicles between March, 1990 and November 1993. During this phase, 18% vehicles have been found polluting in comparison to the 36% polluting vehicles before notification of pollution standards.

(xiii) The Government has started a programme of running battery powered buses so as to minimise vehicular pollution. This programme is under expasnion so that ambient air quality improves in congested.

Encroachment by Migrants in Kaziranga Sanctuary

1028. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the unabated encroachment by illegal migrant from Bangladesh in the Kaziranga Sanctuary which had made the scheme worst for the forest.

(b) what is the precise area of land encroached by the illegal migrants from Bangladesh; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to remove such illegal encroachment from the sanctuary ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH) : (a) to (c) The information has been called from the State Government of Assam and will be laid on the Table of the House.

वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 के अंतर्गत वनों का विनाश

1029. **श्री शिवचरण सिंह** : क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वनों की सुरक्षा के लिए आशयित वन-कानूनों को बनाए जाने के पश्चात् वनों की प्रतिशतता में वृद्धि हुई या ह्रास हुआ है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 और 19 जनवरी, 1991 की अधिसूचना के बावजूद वनों का नाश हुआ है और यदि हां तो उसके क्या कारण है और यदि नहीं, तो वनों की कटाई और अवैध खनन के कितने मामले दर्ज किये गये है ;

(ग) क्या यह सच नहीं है कि केन्द्रीय पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री वन (संरक्षण) कानूनों के उल्लंघन को प्रोत्साहित करते है; और